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Pennsylvania Press Release

PRESS RELEASE

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PENNSYLVANIA RED MEAT PRODUCTION DOWN 4 PERCENT IN JUNE

HARRISBURG --- Commercial red meat production in the state during June 2000 totaled 99.5 million pounds, dressed weight basis, down 4 percent from June 1999, according to the Pennsylvania Agricultural Statistics Service (PASS).

Beef production, at 108.7 million pounds liveweight, was down 1 percent from June 1999. Total head slaughtered was 87,400, down 1 percent; and live weight averaged 1,245 pounds, an increase of 4 pounds compared to one year ago.

Veal production was 5.42 million pounds live weight, up 5 percent. Calf slaughter of 15,200 head was down 2 percent, and average live weight increased 23 pounds to 357 pounds.

Pork production was 47 million pounds live weight, down 8 percent from last year. Total head slaughtered was 196,800, down 8 percent. Average liveweight was 244 pounds, up 2 pounds compared to June 1999.

Lamb and mutton production was 476,000 pounds live weight, down 27 percent from June 1999. The number slaughtered was 5,200, down 25 percent. Average liveweight was 92 pounds, down 2 pounds from last year.

Nationally, commercial red meat production, dressed weight basis, in June 2000 totaled 3.94 billion pounds, up slightly from the previous record high for June set in 1999. Beef production, dressed weight basis, was 2.37 billion pounds, was 2 percent above the previous record high for June set a year ago. Total head slaughtered, at 3.24 million, was up 1 percent from 1999. The average live weight was up 10 pounds from the previous year, at 1,205 pounds.

Veal production, at 19.0 million pounds, 1 percent below the previous record low for June set a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 95,000 head, down 9 percent from June of last year. The average live weight was 25 pounds above last year, at 322 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.54 billion pounds, down 3 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 7.95 million head, 4 percent below a year earlier. The average live weight was 3 pounds above the previous year at 262 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 17.0 million pounds, was down 1 percent from the previous record low for June set in 1999. Sheep slaughter totaled 260,000 head, 4 percent below the previous year. The average live weight was 133 pounds, up 3 pounds from June a year ago.

January-June red meat production was 22.9 billion pounds, 1 percent higher than the comparable figure a year earlier. Accumulated beef production was 2 percent higher than last year, veal was up 1 percent, pork was down 2 percent, and lamb and mutton was down 2 percent.